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SHE SAILS THE SEAS.

MRS. CAPT. BROCK STEERS FOR THE SOUTH.

With No Charts to Guide Her. She Will Seek Strange Lands and Peoples in the South Sea—Discovery Her Purpose.

(San Francisco Correspondence.)

THE POSSIBILITY of a female Robinson Crusoe has never been very strong, for beyond occasional passengers of the gentler sex few women ever go to sea in a sailing craft, the sort that usually makes history of the desert island type But now there comes a chance for the woman castaway to become a reality.

Mrs. Capt. Brock of the schooner Caleb Curtis has gone down among the coral islands of the South Seas on a trading and curio-hunting expedition of her own. Incidentally she will make character studies of the dusky people living on the islands dotting the South Pacific, and return in about two years, and perhaps write a book telling the world all about it.

Her trim craft passed out through the Golden Gate recently on a voyage

MRS. CAPT. BROCK.

of discovery, philanthropy and possibly profit.

Mrs. Brock's husband, Capt. Brock, has command of the Caleb Curtis. The captain is known as the "magic skipper of the South Seas." For years he has traveled among the coral-reefed isles of the Marshall and Gilbert groups in search of curios, trading all sorts of trinkets for all sorts of coral with such success that the natives gave him the name of "the magic man," which name has followed him throughout all his wanderings, wherever he has drifted among the islands of the south.

And now Mrs. Brock has made up her mind to make a voyage herself as a trader and as a seeker after adventure.

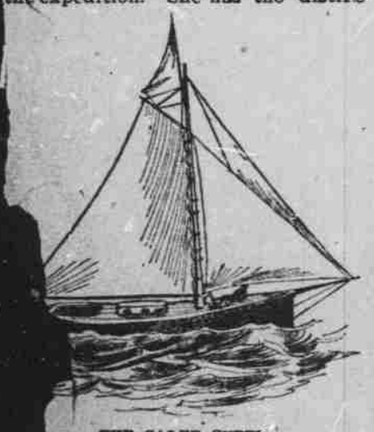
Never before has so tiny a vessel and so strange a crew sailed from San Francisco on a like expedition.

Between decks the none too commodious but cozy quarters of the Curtis have been converted into a veritable doll-house of compartments, shelves and lockers. The department to be presided over by Mrs. Brock has been separated from the main cabin by a partition of colored woods dividing off a stateroom, which is in itself a sleeping place, traveling room and business office. There is a trim desk, with its pigeonholes filled with important looking papers, and a solid-looking little safe and the neatly constructed locker holding a portion of the schooner's valuable cargo.

The pleasure end of the Caleb Curtis is situated further forward. Carefully stored away in her forward hold is fishing tackle, ammunition, bottles in which to preserve specimens of the marine life of the island waters, and a quantity of reading matter, including magazines and the latest novels.

Mrs. Brock is a lover of nature and an ardent collector of curios. She has already arranged an elaborate program for her spare moments in the South Seas.

Mrs. Brock is the owner of the Caleb Curtis, and is the person who fitted out the expedition. She has the distinc-



THE CALEB CURTIS.

tion of being the only woman trader in the world.

The Caleb Curtis being a vessel of small draught will be able to approach closer to and visit many coral inlets and islands that are not approachable by larger vessels. At these havens Mrs. Brock can easily spend much of her time ashore, and at many of them will be the first white woman to set foot on their sands.

"A careful study of human nature among the South Sea islanders," said Mrs. Brock before she sailed, "has never been made in my opinion. My knowledge of the islanders is extensive, and besides this my husband has spent years among them. I believe that a trader alone can get a clear insight into the character of these people. Two years spent among the Marshal and Gilbert groups as an actual trader will give me a great advantage as a student of human nature. I shall be brought into business relations with them, and I hope to do some good among them.

"This is my first experience afloat as a trader, a curio hunter and a seeker of adventure," continued Mrs. Brock, with a laugh. "No, do not liken me to Mrs. Peary. That would be exaggerating the case a little too much. I do not expect to have to brave any dangers that can bear any comparison to the perils of the frozen north. Look on me simply as a woman who does not desire any notoriety, who is traveling because she thinks it will be of financial benefit to her, and because she is a lover of nature and wishes to study it a little in its 'silent mood'"

"My first experience in the southern seas," said Capt. Brock, "was when I was sent out by the National museum and the Woodward's gardens people to secure curios. My wife is the real owner of the Curtis and you might say is the commander of the expedition. There will be two seamen and a mess boy, besides my first officer, in the crew."

The Caleb Curtis is one of the smallest if not the smallest vessel, that has ever engaged in the island trade. The only thing above her decks in the shape of a house is her galley, which was built there specially, after her recent purchase by Mrs. Brock. All of her accommodations are between decks, the total dimensions of her entire cabin being about nine by twelve feet. The quarters of the first officer and seamen are separated from the main cabin by partitions.

The schooner was once a pilot boat and was wrecked some months ago on the bar and all of her crew drowned. She floated bottom upward and was picked up and towed to port by a passing tug. Since then she has changed hands several times, the last exchange being made to Mrs Brock for $2,000. About $5,000 was spent for an assorted cargo of articles to be used for trading purposes.

TOLD OF SAM HOUSTON.

Incidents in the Life of the Hero of Texas.

While at school in Tennessee, in his early years, Sam Houston, who found little that was congenial in the then wilderness, suddenly disappeared. He joined the Cherokee Indians and remained with them, apparently contented and happy, until he was discovered and reluctantly returned to his home. When contentions arose between himself and his brothers he rejoined the Indians. The most mysterious act of his life occurred while he was governor of Tennessee. On entering his office one day it was found that he had swept from his desk all the litter of papers that had accumulated, leaving it clean and unoccupied, excepting that an inkstand was placed in the center and under it a slip of paper containing his resignation of the office of governor. He resigned that office to return to the chosen life of his boyhood with the Cherokees and from whom he had won the honors of a chief. He heartily joined in their councils and was their companion, apparently as happy and contented as ever, for several years. Various explanations were given of this strange conduct. One of these refers to his unfortunate marriage. He had chosen as a wife a charming and amiable young woman, who manifested extreme reluctance to living with him and returned to her father's roof a few months after her marriage. She made no charge against her husband and he made no charge against her. It was said that he was not her choice; that her heart had been given to another, and that she felt it her duty, under the circumstances, not to live with one whom she did not love, and whom she had been led to marry solely by the entreaties of her parents. Gen. Houston seemed to live in the hope of winning the affection of his wife, and sought political preferment with the expectation that his success might secure her admiration.

It is said that immediately preceding his resignation Gov. Houston had a long conversation with his wife, in which he besought her to give him her heart as well as her hand. Listening patiently and silently to his entreaties, her only reply was to gently push him aside and turn away. Houston, it is said, proceeded at once to the capital, wrote his resignation, and returned to the hermitage of the Indian encampment. Col. Baylor of Texas, whose father was an army officer at Fort Gibson, and an old friend of Houston, says that while the latter lived with the Cherokees as their chief he sometimes called at the Baylor mansion, always appearing with his face painted and wearing his moccasins and all his Indian toggery. While chief of the Cherokees he never held any conversation with white men without insisting on having his interpreter present, so that his conversation, which was always in the Indian tongue, could be interpreted. When the Texas convention met in a log-house at San Felipe to form a temporary government, in November, 1835, Houston appeared in his Indian apparel, and President Jackson, whose everlasting friendship he had won in the Creek war, thanked God that there was one man he was acquainted with who was not made up by a tailor.

An Advantage.

Friend—I should think it would irritate an Irishman, with such an aversion toward anything English as you hold, to have red hair.

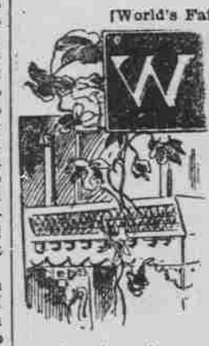
O'Toole—Yes: but th'n't av th' blushure Oi have av cuttin' it.

THE LIGHT OF ASIA.

JAPAN AMONG THE CIVILIZED NATIONS.

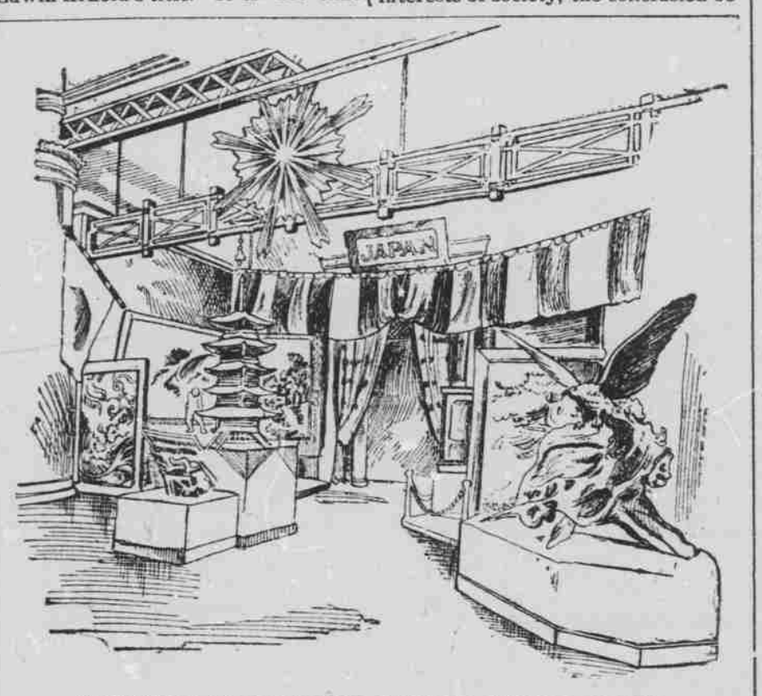
In the Civilized Arts She Stands Near to the Top—The Impression One Gains by a Visit to the World's Fair.

[World's Fair Letter.]



WONDERFUL, INDEED is the progress being made by Japan in the arts of civilization. It is not as if an idea or two had been transplanted from Europe or America, such as railways, or other modern inventions, but rather as if the people, restrained from active participation in the battle fought to create American civilization while Europe was raising itself from the barbarism of the middle ages, had unknown to themselves, been preparing to leap at one bound to those things for which the Caucasians battled during succeeding centuries.

In the future of Japan is to be found the light of Asia, to paraphrase Sir Edwin Arnold's title. It is not that



ENTRANCE TO JAPANESE SECTION, ART BUILDING.

Christianity is to supplant Shintoism or Buddhism, although this will be the result of the conflict of Japanese creeds, or European art that of the native schools, but rather that modern thought and reason, of universal application, because true, has replaced systems of logic not universally applicable. If the modern civilization of Japan stands, the ban of ignorance will be removed from Asia and the cradle of humanity will become worthy of its children, the races of civilized man.

The bureau of commerce and industry has published a work on these subjects which is of high value. It is provided with maps and statistical tables of much interest to the student. It is shown that the greater islands of the archipelago, with those of lesser size, cover an area of about 72,000 square miles. The total of the coast line equals 15,300 nautical miles, the total population is 40,453,461, and the average per square mile is 4,080. The extent of the empire from northeast to southwest is about 1,250 miles, while the breadth varies from seventy-five to 150 miles. The country is mountainous, thus preventing the numerous rivers from being of great commercial importance. There are many fine harbors on which are situated the principal cities. Of these, in the empire are six of population over 100,000, eleven of more than 50,000, seventeen over 30,000,107 over 10,000, a total of 141.

In 1870 the first railway line was laid in Japan. Now a number of private companies and the government operate 1,750 miles of track, with 116 miles of road now in course of construction, 452 miles for which surveys have been completed and 254 miles now being surveyed. The total, when completed, will amount to 2,681 miles, with many greater extensions in sight.

Since 1871 Japan has enjoyed good postal facilities, reaching throughout the empire to the remote settlements. The money order and savings bank and parcel post systems are in use, and the country is a member of the International Postal union. In other departments the government is thorough in its methods. The principal industries of Japan are ceramics, lacquer works, manufactures of paper, metal, leather, wood and bamboo. Of products, raw or manufactured, are vegetable wax, salt, sugar, sake and soy—brewed beverages—tobacco, indigo, raw silk and tea. These are the original industries of Japan. Recent industries, brought over from Europe or America, include processes for the manufacture or utilization of glass, brick, wine, drugs and chemicals, matches, paper and soap. Machinery is made and ships are built. In this work, water and steam power is applied.

To quote from the authority from which these facts and figures have been taken: "The recent opening of trade and commerce with Europe and America has changed the condition of commerce abruptly, and at present the trade with foreign countries seems to grow more extensive year by year, and the maxim, 'In commerce there is no state boundary,' is now realized. The projects formed by the people and the encouragement given by the government during these twenty years gradually begin to show their effects and the advantages derived from establishing the chambers of commerce, mercantile museums, commercial clubs, firms, banks, exchanges, markets, commercial corporations and commercial schools, were by no means small, and in 1890 there was the promulgation of the commercial code, and as the time for its execution is drawing near the scope of the commercial prospect will be gradually extended. This code relates to internal matters only.

The department of education, with its chief, the minister of state for education, has made notable progress during recent years. In 1890 the emperor of Japan delivered an address on education, "in which," quoting the work on "Outlines on the Modern Education in Japan" published in English by the department last May, "the fundamental characteristics of our nation were clearly set forth, and the course of conduct to be pursued by our children was fully indicated. In this speech the young were admonished to attend to their studies and practice their respective callings, to cultivate their intellectual faculties and train their moral feelings, to foster the public weal and promote the interests of society, the conclusion being the expression of a hope that neither his majesty nor any of his subjects should at any time fail to observe these principles faithfully."

As to results: "In 1873 the number of children of school age receiving instruction was about 1,180,000, which had increased to 2,210,000 in 1879. In 1885 the number had increased to 3,180,000, which was again increased to 3,620,000 in 1891, this increase taking place within the twenty years or less since the code of education was first promulgated. In regard to the higher education, the same fostering care by the government has led to similar results. The catalogue of objects exhibited at the World's Fair by the department of education includes everything from toys made by infants in the kindergartens to original inventions in electrical and other sciences by students of the Imperial university. There are schools for males and females of all degrees of mental advancements, institutes for the blind and deaf and dumb, colleges of law, science and art, and special training schools of various kinds. In brief the system is thorough and complete.

The illustration printed herewith from photographs kindly provided by Mr. Tegima, the imperial Japanese commissioner, are in a measure typical of the activities, mental and material, of this wonderful people. The collection of musical instruments from the Tokio Musical school is typical of

IN THE HIDE AND LEATHER BUILDING.

progress in education. Music is a science as well as an art in Japan as elsewhere. There are classical and popular instruments as well as music, distinctly national, although Chinese instruments are also used, and of European instruments, the organ and violin, both of which are manufactured in Japan. Many books of music have been published in the language of the country, historical, biographical and explanatory.

DEBTS OF A NATION.

CAREFUL FINANCIERING IN MANY STATES.

Only $234,000,000 Owed by All the States—This, However, Does Not Include Farm Mortgages—Virginia Alone Shows an Annual Increase.

THE FORTY-FOUR United States owe, collectively, $234,000,000, and they pay to the holders of state securities $10,000,000 a year as interest. Though the population of the United States has increased during the ten years between 1880 and 1890 from 50,000,000 to 62,000,000, there has been no increase in the debt of the several states. On the contrary, the total obligations were less in 1890, and are less now than they were at any time between

COAT OF ARMS OF LOUISANA.

1880 and 1885. Careful financiering is the rule in American commonwealths to-day. It was not always so, especially when, in high inflation times in the west, states pledged their credit and securities to railroads, waterworks, and other business ventures, or in the south, when the rule of carpet-bag adventures was at its height. Ten years ago the state debt of New York was $7,500,000, says the New Sun. Now it is $6,600,000, a reduction of nearly a million, though the state has been put to much expense in acquiring land for the Niagara Park reservation, land in the Adirondacks, and real estate for various public buildings demanded by the expanding requirements of a population of 6,000,000 persons. Ten years ago five states had more than $20,000,000 in outstanding obligations each. They ranked in this order: Virginia, $29,000,000; Tennessee, $27,000,000; Louisiana, 23,000,000, and Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, $20,000,000 each. There has been no diminution of the debt of Virginia, which was returned by the last census as $31,000,000, an increase of $2,000,000 in ten years, but by the operation of laws passed by the legislature and by the acts of commissions appointed by the Virginia bondholders, the interest has been scaled down, and some of the uncertainty about the obligations has been removed. The close of the civil war left Virginia devastated and impoverished, with many of its former industries irretrievably ruined and a large share of its portable wealth almost obliterated. A reign of carpet-bag financiering followed, and the debt of this state was sent up to $47,000,000. It has since been reduced to $31,000,000, but the interest charge, $1,500,000 a year (New York pays only $375,000 a year), is oppressive. During the ten years succeeding 1880 the state debt of Pennsylvania has been cut down $9,000,000. It is now $11,000,000. The debt of Louisiana, largely a heritage of carpet-bag rascality, was $40,000,000 in 1870, and is now $11,000,000. There has been a reduction in Tennessee's debt from $27,000,000 to $16,000,000 but in Massachusetts, under much more favorable conditions for the extinction of the state debt, there

RHODE ISLAND'S COAT OF ARMS.

has been an increase from $20,000,000 to $28,000,000. Maine's debt has been decreased from $4,600,000 in 1880 to $2,600,000 in 1890. New Hampshire's has been decreased from $3,500,000 to $3,500,000. Little Vermont, believed by all Green mountain men worthy of the name as the ideal New England commonwealth, has no debt as a state, neither have any of the counties composing it. The last installment, $4,000, of the old Vermont debt was paid off a few years ago. The debt of Connecticut, which was $7,000,000 ten years ago, is now $3,700,000, and the debt of Rhode Island, which was $1,600,000, is now $1,200,000—one third less. Though the reduction of debt in the old established states of New England has been gradual and satisfactory, better results in a shorter time have been obtained in some of the western states. Thus, Iowa has no debt whatever. Neither has Michigan. Neither has Illinois. These three states are exceptional in this, though in the case of two of them, Illinois and Michigan, there are small amounts of overdue bonds outstanding, interest upon which has ceased. Wisconsin which had $2,000,000 of debt ten years ago, has paid it off and has now no obligations. Ohio has reduced her debt from $5,700,000 to $2,700,000, a clear gain of $3,000,000. Kansas has only $800,000 debt, and Nebraska has only $450,000. Colorado owes $150,000; Wyoming, $300,000; Nevada, $180,000; Idaho, $140,000; Washington, $300,000. These debts may be said to be merely nominal when one contrasts them with the vast resources available for their liquidation. Two western states are exceptions to the general rule of diminished obligations—Indiana and Minnesota. The Indiana debt has increased from $5,000,000 to $8,500,000 within ten years, and Minnesota's debt from $2,500,000 to $4,500,000 in the same period of time. California has reduced her debt from $3,300,000 to $2,600,000. Oregon has no debt whatever; neither has Montana. North Dakota owes $600,000 and South Dakota $1,000,000 for obligations incurred when statehood was acquired. New Jersey's debt is $1,300,000, Delaware's debt is $600,000. The former has slightly increased, the latter has slightly diminished since 1886. Maryland has a debt of $10,000,000, against $7,000,000 ten years ago. Georgia has a debt of $10,000,000, substantially the same as in, 1880. Florida's debt remains at the old figure, $1,200,000. North Carolina's debt has increased from $5,700,000 to $7,700,000. South Carolina's debt remains about as before, $6,000,000. Alabama owes, $9,000,000. Mississippi owes $1,000,000, the old debt having been repudiated. Texas, though growing enormously in wealth, population, and current state expenses, has decreased her bonded obligations from $5,500,000 to $4,200,000. Arkansas has in ten years cut down her obligations from $4,000,000 to $2,000,000. Missouri has cut down her debt from $16,000,000 to $8,000,000, and Kentucky owes less than $1,000,000, and would probably owe less except for the dereliction of a recent state treasurer, who absconded with some of the state's resources. West Virginia has a nominal debt of $135,000, and would have decidedly more if her legislators were willing to assume her pro rata share of the former debt of Virginia, when the counties now composing West Virginia were a part of it. West Virginia was admitted into the Union on June 19, 1863, but the counties which were consolidated to make it up refused to pay any part of the state debt existing at that time, and the Virginia legislators, who have been staggering under a heavy burden of debt of their own, have not, of course, felt desirous of paying off the obligations which equitably belong to the region west of the Alleghanies. Therefore this portion of the Virginia debt remains not only unpaid, but also unrecognized, and as there is no power under the law to sue a state for a default, or to prosecute its representatives in the legislature for any failure to provide for the payment of its equitable or legal debts, it seems as if this obligation would remain permanently unprovided for. The number of states in the Union has increased from thirty-eight to forty-four during the ten years between 1880 and 1890. But the gross debt of all the states during the same period has fallen off from $234,000,000 to $224,000,000, a net reduction of $10,000,000, or at the rate of $1,000,000 a year.

A FAMOUS WOMAN.

Madame Marie Roze, Heroine of the Siege of Paris.

[London Correspondence.]

Madame Marie Roze has returned to London, after a long absence, and is staying with Sir Spencer and Lady Wells, in Upper Grosvener street. She is to sing at several of the Covent Garden promenade concerts. She was born in 1850, and first appeared in Paris in 1865, singing at many of the imperial concerts. She appeared at the last given by Napoleon III., at the Tuileries, and remained in the city during the siege. After the war she was presented by Marshal MacMahon and M. Thiers with a gold medal in recognition of her bravery. She appeared at Her Majesty's opera house, under the management of Col. Mapleson, and then was one of the members of the Carl Rosa Opera company. Her many appearances in this country are well remembered. In this famous company she remained until 1888, having in that interval taken most of the principal parts in its repertoire. With "Carmen" her name has been most closely associated. In 1889 she had a successful tour in her native France, and she has just founded an operatic academy in Paris. She is as devoted as ever to the operatic profession.

MARIE ROZE.

Bob Fitzsimmons, the champion middleweight pugilist, has sued for a divorce. The papers were served on Mrs. Fitzsimmons in Brooklyn. The complaint alleges adultery, but the co-respondent is not named; but Martin Julian, the handsome acrobat, formerly Fitzsimmons' manager, is said to be the man.—Sporting Life.

Andrews, the celebrated crack shot of Woolwich, England, in a revolver contest at the London rifle club, Sept. 20, made forty-two points, the highest possible score. He placed every shot within a two-inch ring at twenty yards.

The Australian cricket team sailed from Liverpool Sept. 20 for New York on the Germanic. Bannerman and Turner of the team did not sail, being compelled to return direct to Australia